His MAJESTIE'S
Moſt Gracious
SPEECH
TO BOTH
HOUSES
OF
PARLIAMENT,
The One and Twentieth Day
of *September*, 1666.

LONDON,
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the KING'S moſt Excellent Majeſty, 1666.

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OF

PARLIAMENT,

This Day and Wednesday

the 8th September 1686.

His MAJESTIES
Most Gracious
SPEECH
To both Houſes of
PARLIAMENT, &c.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Am very glad to meet ſo many of you together againe, and God be thanked for our meeting together in this Place; little time hath paſſed, ſince we were almoſt in deſpair of having this Place left Us to meet in. You ſee the diſmal Ruines the Fire hath made, and nothing but a Miracle of Gods mercy could have preſerved what is left from the ſame Deſtruction. I need make no excuſe to you for diſpenſing with your attendance in *April*, I am confident you all thanked Me for it; the truth is, I deſire to put you to as little trouble as I can, and I can tell you truly I deſire to put you to as little coſt as is poſſible; I wiſh with all my heart, that I could bear the whole charge of this War my ſelf, and that my Subjects ſhould reap the benefit of it to themſelves; but we have two very great

and powerful Enemies, who uſe all the means they can, fair and foul, to make all the World to concur with them, and the War is more chargeable (by that Conjunction) then any body thought it would have been; I need not tell you the ſucceſs of this Summer, in which God hath given us great ſucceſs, and no queſtion the Enemy hath undergone great loſſes, and if it had pleaſed God to have withheld his late Judgment by Fire, we had been in no ill condition. You have given me very large Supplyes for the carrying on the War, and yet I muſt tell you, if I had not by anticipating my own Revenue raiſed a very great ſum of Money, I had not been able to have ſet out the Fleet this laſt Spring, and I have ſome hope upon the ſame Credit to be able to pay off the great Ships as they come in: You will conſider what is to be done next when you are well informed of the expence, and I muſt leave it to your Wiſdoms to find out the beſt Expedients for the carrying on this War, with as little burthen to the People as is poſſible. I ſhall add no more then to put you in mind, that Our Enemies are very inſolent, and if they were able this laſt year to perſwade their miſerable People whom they miſlead, that the Contagion had ſo waſted the Nation and impoveriſhed Us, that We would not be able to ſet out any Fleet, how will they be exalted with this laſt impoveriſhment of this City, and contemn all reaſonable Conditions of Peace; and therefore I cannot doubt but you will provide accordingly.

FINIS.

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